



CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

Certification Bulletin:	2025-04
Issue Date:	December 19, 2025
Effective Date:	February 1, 2026
Supersedes:	<i>Certification Standard for Shop Application of Complex Protective Coating Systems (AISC 420-10)</i>
Bulletin Title:	<i>Updated Certification Standard for Shop Application of Complex Coating Systems (AISC 420-25/SSPC-QP 3)</i>
Inquiries:	certification@aisc.org
To:	All Participants/Applicants

The *Certification Standard for Shop Application of Complex Coating Systems (AISC 420-10/SSPC-QP 3)* has been updated! Beginning February 1, 2026, we will transition participants and applicants who hold or are applying for the Complex Coatings Endorsement to the [updated AISC 420](#).

Updated *Certification Standard for Shop Application of Complex Coating Systems (AISC 420-25/SSPC-QP 3)*

This was not a complete overhaul of the AISC 420. This version has updated terminology, two new sections 5.3.1.1 and 5.3.1.2, and many sections were renumbered for better flow and other clerical changes to meet current publication standards.

Resources

Curious about changes to the updated AISC 420-25? Look no further than the updated [Audit Guide](#)! This handy tool will help identify gaps between your current quality management system (QMS) and the updated 420-25, or you can use it as a starting point to implement management systems that meet the certification requirements. Visit our [Certification Updates page](#) for the audit guide and more resources.



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Effective Date

The updated 420-25 will take effect on February 1, 2026, for both current participants and applicants holding or applying for the Complex Coatings Endorsement. Auditors will then begin issuing Areas Requiring Action (ARAs) for noncompliance with any new or updated criteria from the *Standard*. Quality Management Company (QMC) auditors use ARAs to inform you of recent changes to the *Governing Requirements*, the *Standard*, and/or other normative reference documents.

If the auditor issues an ARA, they will review it at the next audit. If you do not effectively resolve an ARA before the next audit, the auditor will issue a Corrective Action Request (CAR).

If you have any questions, please contact AISC Certification directly at certification@aisc.org or 312.670.7520.